Many campuses have converted private residences into office space, including student health and counseling centers. These houses are not uncommonly former residences of university staff or faculty, located on the fringes of expanding campus borders.

William Hooper, Professor of Electrical Engineering and acting president from 1912-14, built the Tufts University Health Service pictured on the cover in 1892. After Professor Hooper's death in 1918, his sister continued to live there and rent rooms to faculty members. In 1933, Tufts purchased the house to serve as the Department of Education headquarters. The house was converted to a men's infirmary in 1949 and was expanded to serve female students in 1956. After extensive renovations in 1998, Hooper House continues to serve as the Health Service for Tufts University.
On July 31, 2006, San Diego State University closed the 2-story Student Health Services building and replaced it with a brand new, 4-story, 72,000-square-foot complex, The Calpulli Center. *Calpulli* is the Aztec name for a neighborhood built to carry out a common purpose. In Aztec Culture, this could mean providing education, protection, or care for members of the community. Taking more than 8 years to plan and build, the Calpulli Center promotes openness and accessibility via an open courtyard theme. It houses Student Health Services, Health Promotion, Counseling and Psychological Services, and Student Disability Services. The new facility has space to accommodate a growing student enrollment for years to come, with nearly 50 exam and procedure rooms. Students are hopeful they will be able to look to Calpulli Center as not only a place to go for their healthcare needs, but also a place to gain valuable learning experience in preparation for careers in the health professions.
The McLane Student Life Center at Baylor University was built to foster a sense of campus community and improve student recruitment and retention. An important feature of the design of the Center was that it bring together all programs and activities that contribute to wellness and recreation on campus. It contains the recreation and fitness center, the wellness center, the student health center, the counseling center, and the natatorium. This 156,000-square-foot, 3-story facility was completed in 1999 at a construction cost of $21 million, and includes a 4-court gymnasium, 52-foot-high climbing structure, elevated jogging track, and a combination fitness/leisure pool with a sun deck. Baylor officials studied more than 20 university fitness facilities across the nation to garner ideas for the Student Life Center, and its construction has contributed to nearly 85% of Baylor students participating in intramural sports activities each year. (Photo credit: Baylor Photograph/ Matthew Minard)
Brigham Young University's Student Health Center is unique for its efficiency, beauty, and wide range of medical services. The facility houses the health clinic, mental health, urgent care, physical therapy, pharmacy, radiology, immunizations, laboratory, medical records, information technology, student insurance plan, administration, and specialty clinics (ENT, orthopedics, podiatry, ophthalmology, and psychiatry). The Center treats over 80,000 students, dependents, and missionaries per year. This 36,380-square-foot building, which cost approximately $6.3 million, was completed in June 1998. Consisting of 2 floors and a partial basement, it provides adequate room for up-to-date technology, patient privacy, and parking, with easily understood signage and full accessibility.
Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) recently unveiled one of the most comprehensive new student health centers in the nation. Replacing two deteriorating buildings that housed health programs for the past 40 years, students endorsed a fee increase to fund the majority of the project. By connecting to the adjacent Student Recreation Center, this Healthplex integrates various health services once scattered around campus into a single location that provides students a continuum of health, wellness, and recreational activities under one roof. The new 59,000-square-foot student health center provides students with all of their health needs, including mental health, clinical care, wellness, pharmacy, laboratory, radiology, dental health, and travel medicine services. The facility integrates physical therapy and athletic training with sports medicine specialists to deliver state-of-the-art medicine for intercollegiate and intramural athletes, including a therapy pool that provides patients with multiple aquatic intervention techniques to facilitate the rehabilitation process. Partnering with local providers, optical and dermatology satellite offices are located within the Student Health Center, bringing quality and convenience to all students’ primary care needs. A lecture hall was included to accommodate teaching the next generation of health and wellness professionals. Photo credit: Beth Alongi Photography.
Varsity Hall, located on the University of Virginia campus, was built in 1857-1858 for the express purpose of providing inpatient care for ill students. It ceased to be used as an infirmary in 1901. During the 20th century it provided a home for a variety of campus activities, but the building gradually fell into disrepair. It was recently rescued from demolition, moved, and completely renovated at considerable expense. In this issue, the history and unique architectural features of this building are described in the article “Varsity Hall: The Infirmary at the University of Virginia.” Photo credit: William A. Christmas, March 13, 2008.
Workers in the field of college health recognize the importance of health to the central mission of postsecondary education. Nowhere is that connection better articulated than in the quotation “When health is absent, wisdom cannot reveal itself, art cannot manifest, strength cannot fight, wealth becomes useless, and intelligence cannot be applied.” The probable author of this quotation is Herophilus of Chalcedon (335-280 BCE). Herophilus was the physician to Alexander the Great and was often quoted by Galen, Dioscorides, Pliny, and Plutarch. He is also credited for being the father of anatomy, the first to measure the arterial pulse, founder of the great medical school at Alexandria, one of the founders of the scientific method and among the first physicians to recommend good diet and exercise, although he was also an enthusiastic advocate of bleeding.

Because of this quotation’s relevance to college health, the Art Committee at Boynton Health Service of the University of Minnesota commissioned Gary Hallman, to create a work of art depicting the essence of this quotation. Mr. Hallman is associate professor of art at the University of Minnesota and is internationally recognized for his creative use of digital photography. His interpretation of the Herophilus quotation is prominently displayed near the entrance to Boynton Health Service. It is also featured on the cover of this issue of the Journal of American College Health.

The Art Committee of Boynton Health Service was established in 2003 and charged “to find ways to cover the walls and fill the spaces of the health service with things that stimulate and excite the imagination, calm and nurture the psyche, challenge and encourage creativity, and soothe and heal the body, mind, and spirit of all who enter the building.” With that charge the Art Committee has collected artwork by University students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Through donations, loans, grants, purchases, and staff art competitions Boynton Health Service has been able to build a substantial art collection that is displayed throughout the health service. (Photo courtesy Gary Hallman © 2007)
Western Kentucky University (WKU) Health Services opened the doors to its new 20,000-square foot, state-of-the-art medical facility in January 2008. Construction took 13 months and cost $5.7 million dollars. The 1-story facility houses 16 exam rooms, 2 procedure rooms, digital imaging, laboratory, billing offices, travel medicine and allergy clinic, a training/classroom, 2 tornado shelters, and health education offices. Dedicated patient parking is available in front of the building.

WKU Health Services offers primary care and internal medicine to students, faculty, staff, alumni, and dependents. Third-party billing is offered to all students and University employees. Health Services has also implemented a full electronic medical record (EMR), and anticipates a future increase in annual visits given the increased space.

Photo credit: WKU Health Services.
The vibrant colors and bright spaces inside Penn State’s new Student Health Center encourage students to stop by whether they are sick or well. Counseling & Psychological Services and University Health Services share the building, allowing students to access psychological and medical services in one convenient location.

The facility boasts 5 stories, 63,300 square feet, 60 exam rooms, 27 counseling rooms, and 3 group therapy spaces. Students can take advantage of the building’s wireless connection and comfortable chairs while viewing health promotion videos, or browse the expanded over-the-counter area in the center’s pharmacy. Floor-to-ceiling windows flood the main waiting areas with natural sunlight and a spectacular view of campus. The Student Health Center includes a number of environmentally friendly features including a green roof that helps absorb water runoff and reduce heating and cooling costs. Photo credit: Jeff Tryon with RMJM Hillier.
Founded in 1881, Spelman College holds the distinction of being America’s oldest historically black college for women. Initially a practice school for students in the Nursing Program, MacVicar Hall first opened as a hospital to serve the African American community of Atlanta. The building was named in honor of Dr. Malcolm MacVicar, Superintendent of Education for the American Baptist Home Mission Society (ABHMS). After nurse training was discontinued in 1928, the hospital became the college infirmary, serving both Spelman and Morehouse students. Completely renovated in 2000, MacVicar Hall now houses the Student Health Center, Counseling Department, and residential housing for students in 2-peer education groups: the Student Health Associates and Peer Educators (SHAPE) and Peer Education Program (PEPers). Photo Credit: Beth Alongi
The Wellness Center at the University of North Dakota opened its doors in September 2006. The Center was initially envisioned by The Healthy UND Coalition, an assemblage of students, faculty, and staff committed to improving the health of the entire campus community.

This 106,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility houses intramural sports, worksite wellness, fitness center, demonstration kitchen, and meditation lounge. A 7-dimensional wellness model provided the framework for both the building and the programs it supports. The University of North Dakota’s co-mingling of student wellness, worksite wellness, and student health programs acknowledges the importance of a healthy campus environment to the academic mission of institutions of higher education. This campus-wide approach to wellness has already resulted in the adoption of a policy for a tobacco-free campus, as well as national accreditation for the worksite & fitness programs. Photo credit: Chuck Kimmerle.
The Law School Building was constructed on the campus of Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) in 1895-1896 using an Italian Renaissance style. This impressive structure, built with Ohio buff sandstone and a copper roof, has an inscription below the main cornice from Exodus 18:20: “And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt show them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.” After the Law School moved to a new building in 1972, their former building was remodeled for the University Health Service. Previously the Health Service had been located in three separate buildings around campus, and the renovation allowed for all of the services to be brought together in one location.

The newly renovated Health Service opened in August of 1983 with a 14-bed infirmary and full primary care facilities. The Health Service was remodeled again in 1988 when the infirmary closed and the University Security Department moved into the basement of the building. The top two stories of the building continue to house the General Medical Clinic and University Counseling Services that serve full-time students attending Case Western Reserve University, the Cleveland Institute of Art (CIA), the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM), and the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine (OCPM).